



Foreign Agricultural Service

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## **Russian Federation**

# **Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards**

## **Russian Biotech Labeling Law 1999**

Approved by:

**Geoffrey W. Wiggin**

**U.S. Embassy, Moscow**

Drafted by:

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### **Report Highlights:**

**Russian Ministry of Health issued a consumer product labeling law effective July 1, 2000. Food and medical products derived from genetically modified sources (GMS) must be labeled according to the decree. An exception to this rule is food (such as refined oils, modified starches, syrups of glucose, etc.) which does not contain proteins. Effective January 1, 2000 information on GMS products must be included in shipping documents.**

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Includes PSD changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Moscow [RS1], RS



Begin text

**CHIEF STATE SANITARY PHYSICIAN  
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**DECREE**

26 September 1999

No. 12

*On improving the system of control  
over the sale of agricultural products  
and medicinal preparations made of genetically  
modified sources*

In order to implement the provisions of the RF laws “On sanitary and epidemiological condition of the population” and “On protection of consumer rights” as regards the marking and sale of food products and medicinal preparations, provision of more information to the consumer regarding the quality and safety of products and in connection with the increased volumes of production and supply of products obtained from genetically modified sources

**I DECREE:**

1. To introduce the marking of food products and medicinal preparations made of genetically modified sources (GMS) by attaching labels, inserts, tags to the retail pack informing the consumer of the compliance of the corresponding product with the provisions of appendix 1 to this Decree.
2. To determine that food products made of genetically modified sources not containing DNA and albumen (food and aromatic supplements, refined oils, modified starches, maltodextrin, syrups of glucose, dextrose, isoglucose, etc.) are not subject to marking.
3. To ban with effect from 1 July 2000 the sale to the population of food products and medicinal preparations obtained from genetically modified sources without a corresponding marking on the retail pack as specified in appendix 1 hereto.
4. Organizations, enterprises, legal entities and individuals engaged in the import, delivery, production and sale of food products and medicinal preparations made of genetically modified sources are required with effect from 1 January 2000 to include information on the presence of materials and components made of GMS in the product/transport documents for the corresponding consignments of products.
5. The Institute of Nutrition of the Russian Academy of Medical Science (in coordination with) by 1 December 1999 is required to work out and submit to the Health Ministry of the Russian Federation for approval a supplement to the Sanitary rules “Hygienic requirements for quality and safety of food materials and food

products” (SanPiN 2.3.2.560-96) regarding the marking of retail packs of food products made of genetically modified sources.

6. Mr. S.S Budarin, deputy minister of health of the Russian Federation is obligated:

to ensure the development and to approve the system of state registration, departmental control, marking, assessment and safety criteria for medicinal preparations and their ingredients obtained from genetically modified sources;

to make amendments to the Methodological guidance “Graphic design of medicinal preparations. General requirements” (MU 9467-015-05749470-98) as regards the marking of GMS-based preparations.

7. Chief state sanitary physicians of the regions of the Russian Federation and of regional transport services are required:

to distribute the text of this Decree to all enterprises, organizations, legal entities and individuals engaged in the import, delivery, production and sale of products which are based on genetically modified sources;

to demand of the heads of the organizations and enterprises referred to above the compliance with the established procedure for the provision of information to the population, the marking and labeling of genetically modified products and to set up an efficient system of state control in this field.

8. This Decree is binding on all the organizations, enterprises, legal entities and individuals engaged in the import, delivery, production and sale of food products and medicinal preparations obtained from genetically modified sources.

9. The function of control over the compliance with this Decree shall be my personal responsibility.

G.G .Onischenko

Appendix 1 to the Decree  
of the Chief state sanitary physician  
of the Russian Federation  
date: 26 September 1999  
No. 12

Types of marking for food materials and food products  
made of genetically modified sources

1. Genetically modified products “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”  
(name of the product)
2. “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” produced on the basis of genetically modified sources
3. “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” contains components obtained from genetically modified sources

end text